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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Office of Current Intelligence
9 May 1965

INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

Situation in the Dominican Republic
(Report #197 - Summary of Situation
from 1:00 pm EDT - 5:00 pm EDT)

1. Antonio Imbert, leader of the Council of National Reconstruction, announced today that eight top-ranking military officers--with the exception of General Elias Wessin y Wessin--had been separated from their commands "for the good of the country." The officers removed from their jobs were: Army Generals Salvador Montas and Felix Hermida, Jr., Police General Belisario Peguero, Air Force General Miguel Atila Luna, Navy Commodore Julio Rib Santamaria, and Army Colonels Marcos Rivera Cuesta, Manuel Garcia Urbaez, and Renato Hungria Morel. All but Garcia Urbaez and Hungria Morel are now out of the Dominican Republic, Imbert said. Most of these military officers have long been associated with graft and corruption and their removal should aid in rebuilding morale within the loyalist forces and improve Imbert's public image. When asked if General Wessin would be removed from his post as commander of the Armed Forces Training Center, the junta chief declared that the matter had not been given consideration.

2. Imbert also announced that Colonel Jacinto Martinez Arana had been named the new army chief of staff, that General Juan de los Santos would remain as air force chief and that Commodore Emilio Jimenez would head the navy. Commodore Francisco Rivera Caminero of the navy was appointed secretary of the armed forces yesterday.

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